

### REMARKS

In the Office Action dated September 25, 2003, claims 1-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 6,430,556 (Goldberg).

Applicant respectfully submits that Goldberg does not disclose the subject matter of any of the claims. Claim 1 recites the following elements:

- receiving user selection through a user interface pertaining to environment information of a target database system to extract;
- receiving the environment information extracted based on the user selection from the target database system.

The Office Action cited to the following passage of Goldberg as teaching the act of receiving user selection: column 8, lines 37-40. The graphic user interface 534 disclosed in Goldberg enables a user, at a terminal 536, to operate interactively with a query object generator tool 500. Through the graphical user interface, a user can "define and examine one or more query objects, change their definitions and manipulate them in various ways." Goldberg, 10:16-20. However, nowhere within Goldberg is there any teaching that the graphical user interface of Goldberg can be used for receiving user selection pertaining to *environment information of a target database system to extract*.

Goldberg also fails to disclose receiving the environment information extracted based on a user selection *from the target database system*. The Office Action cited the following passage of Goldberg as teaching this element: column 8, lines 40-51. The cited passage refers to the query object generator tool 500 receiving information from a database 522 to allow formulation of a query and testing of the query. However, the cited passage fails to disclose receiving, by the test system, the environment information extracted based on the user selection from the target system, where the test system is separate from the target database system.

For the foregoing reasons, claim 1 is allowable over Goldberg. The claims dependent from claim 1 are allowable for at least the same reasons as for claim 1. Moreover, with respect to dependent claim 3, there is no teaching whatsoever in

Goldberg of *emulating* a target database system in the test system using the received environment information.

With respect to claim 7, there is no teaching whatsoever of presenting user-selectable options corresponding to statistics information and cost parameters. The Office Action cited to column 3, lines 60-65 of Goldberg as disclosing this recited feature. There is no mention whatsoever of statistics information and cost parameters in the cited passage of Goldberg.

With respect to dependent claim 8, there is no teaching in Goldberg of presenting user-selectable options corresponding to data relating to *definitions of relations*. The Office Action cited to column 10, lines 16-24, as teaching this element. However, the cited passage refers to using the graphical user interface to allow a user to change definitions of *query objects*, not definitions of relations as recited in claim 8.

With respect to newly added dependent claim 32, there is no teaching in Goldberg of presenting a screen containing graphical user interface elements selected by a user to select, for extraction, environment information *associated with tables referenced by a query*.

With respect to dependent claim 33, there is no teaching in Goldberg of receiving environment information that includes at least one of the following: number of nodes in the target database system, number of processors per node, statistics, and random samples pertaining to data demographics of data stored in the target database system.

With respect to dependent claim 34, Goldberg does not disclose emulating the target database system based on the environment information defined by claim 33. With respect to claim 35, there is no teaching by Goldberg of generating an execution plan for a query based on an emulated database environment created by emulating the target database system. With respect to dependent claim 36, there is no teaching of Goldberg of visually displaying steps of the execution plan in the user interface. With respect to dependent claim 37, there is no teaching of generating an execution plan for plural access module processors that access, in parallel, respective storage modules defined in the emulated database environment.

Independent claim 14 is also allowable over Goldberg for reasons similar to those of claim 1. Specifically, Goldberg fails to disclose a test system having a processor,

software executable on the processor to present a user interface in a display, and the user interface comprising user-selectable elements to indicate environment information to export from a target database system that is separate from the test system.

Claims dependent from claim 14 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 14. Moreover, with respect to dependent claim 18, there is no teaching in Goldberg of a user-selectable element to indicate extraction of environment information associated with one or more tables associated with a query in the target database system. The Office Action cited to Goldberg, column 6, lines 36-40, as disclosing this feature. There is no such teaching in the cited passage of Goldberg.

With respect to dependent claim 23, there is no teaching in Goldberg of environment information that includes one or more of statistics information, cost information, information pertaining to definitions of relations, and samples of data demographics of access modules in the target database system. The definitions relating to query objects described in the column 10, lines 16-24, passage cited by the Office Action does not teach the recited element.

Independent claim 28 is allowable over Goldberg for reasons similar to those for claim 1.

Allowance of all claims is requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1673 (9749).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 23, 2003



---

Dan C. Hu, Reg. No. 40,025  
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.  
8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100  
Houston, TX 77024  
713/468-8880 [Ph]  
713/468-8883 [Fax]